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TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Membership

Representative Wayne Christian



Biographical Information

Wayne Christian (R-Center), approaching his third term in the House, was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1996. As the District 9 State Representative, Christian serves Jasper, Nacogdoches, Sabine, and Shelby Counties. As a pro-family conservative serving on the House Committees on Human Services and Agriculture/Livestock, the House Rural Caucus, and the House Republican Caucus, Representative Christian has taken the lead on a number of policy endeavors.

During the 76th Legislative Session, Christian sponsored the landmark parental notification law, established faith-based liaisons in the Department of Human Services, prioritized private, non-profit and charitable organizations when providing transportation services to the needy, and allowed faith-based groups not qualifying as non-profit organizations to acquire surplus and salvage property from government agencies. Other legislation sponsored by Christian encouraged marriage and discourage divorce in health and human services agency regulations and allowed judges to require a parenting course and counseling for parents seeking a divorce. The Timber Reforestation and Conservation Act reclassified timber as an agricultural product to help East Texas timber owners save on taxes.

In addition, Representative Christian sponsored legislation accomplishing the following increasing the Teacher Retirement System multiplier from 2.0 to 2.2%; establishing a fund for the prosecution of capitol murder cases; encouraging partnerships for the development of voluntary career/technology workforce training programs; requiring HMOs to pay healthcare providers promptly; enforcing payment by responsible counties for indigent healthcare costs; providing liability immunity to managers who give information to prospective employers about a current or former employee's job performance; providing immunity from liability to volunteer healthcare providers; and regulating body piercing facilities through the Texas Department of Health.

For his work during the last two legislative sessions, the Free Market and Free Enterprise Political Action Committees recognized Representative Christian as one of the most conservative state legislators. In 1997, Christian received the "Leaders of Excellence" award for being designated as one of the top 20% most conservative lawmakers, and in 1999, he received the "Texas Top 10" award for being named in the top 10% of the state's most conservative legislators. Following the 76th Legislative Session, Representative Christian made the "honor roll" of conservative legislators by the Young Conservatives of Texas. Additionally, the Texas Christian Coalition gave him a perfect score of 100% for his pro-family positions on issues. In 1997, Christian was named "Freshman of the Year" by the House Republican Caucus.

While in the Legislature, Representative Christian has remained active in moving people from welfare to work and instituting faith-based reforms in health and human services agencies. He has worked to remove barriers so that churches, faith-based, and non-profit organizations to increase their involvement in serving their communities and helping the needy. In 1996, he teamed up with Governor George W. Bush's office to sponsor a "Faith in Action" Conference at Stephen F. Austin State University.

Representative Christian was born in Center, Texas and was raised in Tenaha. In 1973, he graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches with a B.B.A. in General Business and a minor in Marketing. Representative Christian married the former Lisa Lemoine of Shelbyville in 1975. They have three daughters - Liza, 17, Lindsey, 15, and Lauren, 11 years old. As owner of an investment company, and registered representative of SunAmerica Securities, Inc. of Center, Christian has been honored with the top office of 6,700 nationwide. Christian has been extremely active in the community as a member of First Baptist Church of Center, Lions International, Gideons International, Promise Keepers and the Christian Coalition.

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